

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

ACDA-07 IO-13 EB-08 NRC-05 OES-06 FEAE-00 ERDA-05

/099 W

-----281421Z 084843 /45

R 280822Z JAN 77

FM AMEMBASSY TAIPEI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2416

INFO AMCONSUL HONG KONG

USLO PEKING

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

C O N F I D E N T I A L TAIPEI 0532

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MNUC, US, TW

SUBJECT: STATEMENT BY PREMIER ON US AND ROC NUCLEAR POLICY

BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED

1. FOLLOWING IS THE TEXT OF A JANUARY 27 GOVERNMENT INFORMATION
OFFICE (GIO) PRESS RELEASE WHICH WAS CARRIED BY ALL LOCAL
NEWSPAPERS CONTAINING REMARKS ON US AND ROC NUCLEAR POLICY MADE
BY THE PREMIER AT A JANUARY 27 CABINET MEETING:

BEGIN TEXT

PREMIER CHIANG CHING-KUO EXPRESSED HIS
AGREEMENT AND SUPPORT TO THE POLICY STATEMENT
MADE BY PRESIDENT CARTER OF THE UNITED STATES
ON JANUARY 23, 1977 FOR A COMPLETE AND GRADUAL
GLOBAL ELIMINATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS PRECEDED
BY THE HALTING OF ALL NUCLEAR TESTS INSTANTLY
AND COMPLETELY.

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DURING THE CABINET MEETING ON JANUARY 27TH,
PREMIER CHIANG INDICATED THAT THE PHASED
DESTRUCTION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS ENUNCIATED BY
PRESIDENT CARTER DESERVES OUR WARM SUPPORT.
PRESIDENT CARTER STATED THAT THE UNITED STATES
WULD SPARE NO EFFORT IN PREVENING THE PRO-
LIFERATION OF NUCLEAR ARMS AND THE HALTING OF

NUCLEAR TESTS OF ALL KINDS EVERYWHERE IN THE
WORLD, WITH A VIEW TO EVENTUAL DESTRUCTION OF
ALL NUCLEAR ARMS STOCKPILES NOW IN THE HANDS
OF NUCLEAR POWERS.

PREMIER CHIANG POINTED OUT THAT THE GOVERN-
MENT OF THE REPUBLIC OF CHINA HAS BEEN CONSIS-
TENTLY ADVOCATING THE PEACEFUL USE OF ATOMIC
ENERGY; AND ALTHOUGH THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT HAS
THE CAPABILITY OF DEVELOPING NUCLEAR WEAPONS IT
WILL NEVER ENGAGE IN THE PRODUCTION OF SUCH
WEAPONS. THIS SOLEMN POSITION IS WELL KNOWN TO
THE WORLD AND THE CHINESE GOVERNMENT WILL DO
ITS UTMOST IN COOPERATING FULLY WITH THE UNITED
STATES TO PREVENT THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR
WEAPONS.

END TEXT

END UNCLASSIFIED

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2. COMMENT: THE PREMIER'S REMARKS, AS CONTAINED IN
THE GIO PRESS RELEASE, ARE CONSISTENT WITH PREVIOUS
OFFICIAL PUBLIC STATEMENTS ON ROC NUCLEAR POLICY.
HOWEVER, GIO DOES NOT NORMALLY ISSUE PRESS RELEASES ON
REMARKS MADE AT CABINET MEETINGS. IN THIS CASE, THE
GROC MAY HAVE BEEN MOTIVATED TO ISSUE THE RELEASE AS
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A VEHICLE BY WHICH TO REITERATE ROC NUCLEAR POLICY
DIRECTED PRIMARILY AT THE US NUCLEAR TEAM NOW VISITING
TAIWAN AS WELL AS TO EXPRESS SUPPORT FOR ONE OF THE
MAJOR ELEMENTS IN PRESIDENT CARTER'S FOREIGN POLICY
PRIORITIES.

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